Rise in silk export

617. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the silk export has risen;

(b) if so, the year-wise details thereof of the last five years;

(c) the amount earned by the Government; and

(d) the export policy prepared for the current Five Year Plan to each country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRIMATI PANABAKA LAKSHMI): (a) to (c) Exports of ready made garments of silk have grown steadily during the last five years. However exports of natural silk yarn, fabrics and made-ups and silk waste have shown a declining trend during the last five years as may be seen from the table below. The earning of exports for the silk products is also indicated in the table in US$ million.

	2004-05 US$ Mn	2005-06 US$ Mn	2006-07 US$ Mn	2007-08 US$ Mn	2008-09 US$ Mn
Readymade Garment of Silk	189.54	260.72	264.37	271.78	312.59
Natural Silk yarn, fabrics and made-ups	404.69	428.06	436.55	382.93	361.80
Silk Waste	03.3	4.50	5.03	3.02	1.14
TOTAL	594.56	693.28	705.95	657.72	675.53

Source : DGCI and S Kolkata (Provisional Figures)

(d) The Foreign Trade Policy for 2009-14 was announced on 27th August, 2009, which *inter alia* covers various schemes *viz.* Focus Market Scheme and Focus Product Scheme. The complete text of the Foreign Trade Policy 2009-14 is available on web-site of the Directorate General of Foreign Trade *viz.* http://dgft.gov.in.

FDI in Defence Sector

618. SHRI PRABHAT JHA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government believes that the technical and management efficiency of Indian companies involved in production of military items can be enhanced by foreign assistance;

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that in the absence of necessary incentives foreign companies are withdrawing their support;

Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) if so, whether Government is considering to encourage the foreign investment in defence sector; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI M.M. PALLAM RAJU): (a) Yes, Sir. FDI in its wake would enhance the technical and management efficiency of Indian companies.

(b) to (d) FDI in Defence Industry Sector is permissible, upto 26% of equity, subject to approval of Foreign Investment Promotion Board (FIPB), Ministry of Finance. As per our records there is no instance of foreign companies withdrawing their support on account of lack of incentives.

Delay in implementation of Coastal Security Schemes

619. SHRI N.K. SINGH:
SHRI RAJKUMAR DHOOT:

Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government is aware that the country's coastline still far from being secure even a year after terrorists struck Mumbai from the sea;

(b) if so, whether the various schemes announced by Government to beef up coastal security have not even been commenced;

(c) if so, the details thereof; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to implement the schemes announced for coastal security in a time bound manner?

THE MINISTER OF DEFENCE (SHRI A.K. ANTONY): (a) to (d) Government has accorded top priority to coastal security and for this purpose an integrated approach has been put in place to counter such incidents in future. The intelligence — sharing mechanism has been streamlined through the creation of Joint Operation Centres and multi agency coordination mechanism. The coastal surveillance and patrolling has been enhanced. Joint and operational exercises are taking place on regular basis between Navy, Coast Guard, Coastal Police and Customs in order to check the effectiveness of the new systems. Further strengthening of ships, air assets, manpower and other equipment like radars is an on-going process keeping in view the threat perception.

Rise in stress level of soldiers due to continuous deployment

620. SHRI MOHD. ALI KHAN: Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that continuous deployment has resulted in a sharp rise in the stress level of soldiers, as evident from a large number of stress-related diseases like hypertension, hear ailments and psychiatric problems;

(b) if so, the details thereof in the Army, Air Force and Navy divisions; and